

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 02054 201917Z  
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05  
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15  
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 /074 W  
-----065005 201932Z /14

O 201835Z MAY 78  
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1482  
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 02054

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O.: GDS  
TAGS: PORG, SF, WA  
SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: DRAFT MESSAGE FOR SOUTH AFRICA

REFS: (A) USUN 2049 (B) CAPETOWN 1016 (C) USUN 901

1. OUR MESSAGE (REFTEL A) INCORRECTLY SUGGESTED THAT YOU  
DRAW ON LANGUAGE USED IN PENULTIMATE PARAGRAPH OF THE  
MESSAGE TO THE FRONTLINE STATES (REFTEL C). ACTUALLY  
THE CONTACT GROUP HAD AGREED TO SUGGEST THIS AS BACK-  
GROUND FOR CAPE TOWN REPRESENTATIONS ONLY. THE PARA-  
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GRAPH SHOWS WHY WE WISH TO AVOID USE OF "FINAL AND  
DEFINITIVE" LANGUAGE. WE AGREE THAT YOU SHOULD NOT  
REPEAT NOT USE SUCH LANGUAGE WITH THE SOUTH AFRICANS.

2. ALL HERE RECOGNIZE THAT YOU ARE IN TRICKY SITUATION,  
THOUGH, AS YOU KNOW, BRITISH ARE MORE INCLINED THAN  
OTHERS TO LEAN TOWARD BOTTOM LINE LANGUAGE. WE CERTAINLY

INTENDED, WHEN THE PROPOSAL WAS PRESENTED TO THE PARTIES, TO CONVEY THE VIEW THAT THE PROPOSAL WAS ABOUT THE BEST THAT COULD BE DEVELOPED UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES AND TO DISCOURAGE SUGGESTIONS FOR CHANGE. ON THE OTHER HAND, WE WERE ALWAYS CONSCIOUS OF THE POSSIBLE NEED FOR SOME REVISIONS AND NEVER USED THE TERMS "FINAL AND DEFINITIVE" AS SOUTH AFRICA HAS STATED. WE WOULD NOT WISH TO ENGAGE IN A SEMANTIC ARGUMENT WITH THE SOUTH AFRICANS, BUT IN OUR VIEW THE USE OF THE TERMS "FINALIZED" AND "DEFINITIVE" IN OTHER CONTEXTS CONVEYS A DIFFERENT MEANING FROM THEIR USE OF "FINAL AND DEFINITIVE". IN ANY EVENT, WHILE WE MUST STILL TRY TO HOLD THE LINE, SOUTH AFRICA'S ATTACK ON CASSINGA HAS CHANGED THE CIRCUMSTANCES IN WHICH THE PROPOSAL WILL BE CONSIDERED.

3. REGARDING YOUR SUGGESTED RESPONSE (PARA TWO, REFTEL B), WE BELIEVE THAT WE SHOULD AVOID BEING SO CATEGORIC. MOST IMPORTANT, WE DO NOT WISH TO CONVEY THE IMPRESSION THAT WE ARE UNWILLING TO DISCUSS CHANGES, FOR AS WAS THE CASE OF OUR WILLINGNESS TO DISCUSS POWERS OF THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY, WE MAY WISH TO DISCUSS A PROPOSED CHANGE WITH EITHER PARTY EVEN IF WE END UP REJECTING IT. LEONARD

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INSTRUCTIONS, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978USUNN02054  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** DG ALTERED  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780213-0273  
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**Message ID:** 6269179a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION IO  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 USUN NEW YORK 2049, 78 CAPE TOWN 1016, 78 USUN NEW YORK 901  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 02 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2627967  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** NAMIBIA: DRAFT MESSAGE FOR SOUTH AFRICA  
**TAGS:** PORG, PDIP, SF, WA  
**To:** STATE CAPE TOWN  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/6269179a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
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